WHEELING, WEST VA., WEDNESDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 4, 1867.

President of the United States

FORTIETH CONGRESS.

and House of Representatives: continued diserganization of the in which the President has so otten the attention of Congress, is yet a of profound and patriotic concern, y however, find some relief from misty in the reflection that the painties at the parameter of the property of the parameter of the professional pr

the benefit of the lessons it teaches as fully and as speedly as possible. This data was upon the termination of the rebellion, presently accepted, not only by the Executive Department, but by the insurrectionary States themselves, and restoration, in the first moment of peace, was believed to be as easy and certain as it was indispensable. The expectations, however, then so reasonably and confidently entertained, were disappointed by legislation from which I felt constrained, by my obligations to the Constitution, to withhold my assent.

It is therefore a source of profound regret that, in complying with the obligation imposed upon the President by the
Constitution, to give to Congress from
time to time information of the state of
the Union, I am unable to communicate
any definitive adjustment, astisfactory to
the American People, of the questions
which, since the close of the rebellion,
have agitated the public mind. On the
contrary, candor compela me to declare
that at this time there is no Union as our
Fathers understood the term, and as they
meant it to be understood by us. The
Union which they established can exist
only where sall the States are represented

separable. As long as one is obeyed by all parties, the other will be preserved, and if one is destroyed both must perish together. The destruction of the Consti-tution will be followed by other and still greater calamities. It was ordained not

their consent to a change in the fundamental law of the Union would have been nugatory, and Congress, in asking it, committed a political absurdity. The Judiciary has also given the solemn sanction of its authority to the same view of the case. The Judges of the Supreme Court have included the Southern States in their circuits, and they are constantly, in base and shewherd, exercising furiadiction which does not belong to them, unless those States are States of the Union.

If the Southern States are component parts of the Union, the Constitution is the supreme law for them, as it is for all the other States. They are bound to obey it, and so are we. The right of the Federal Government, which is clear and unquestionable, to enforce the Constitution upon them, implies the correlative obligation on our part to observe its limitations and execute its guaranties. Without the Constitution we are nothing; by, through, and under the Constitution we are what makes us. We may doubt the wisdom of the law, we may not approve of its provisions, but we cannot violate it merely be-

intelligent men then saw the necessity of giving such an assurance, and believed that without it the war would end in disaster to our cause. Having given that assurance in the extremity of our peril, the violation of it now, in the day of our power, would be a rude rending of that good faith which holds the moral world together; our country would cease to have any claim upon the confidence of men; it would make the war not only a failure, but a fraud.

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such responsibility, if he cannot meet it by reason of restrictions placed by law upon his action.

The unrestricted power of removal from office is a very great one to be trusted even to a Magiatrate chosen by the general suffrage of the whole people, and accountable directly to them for his acts. It is undoubtedly lable to abuse, and at some periods of our history perhaps has been abused. It is to be thought desirable and constitutional that it should be so limited as to make the President merely a common informer explaint of the production of products since 1847, 200,000. The amount of specific colours of the stability of our institutions, and the servers Bareaus of the stability of the servers Bareaus of the stable of the servers Bareaus of the stability of the servers Bareaus of the servers as servers as servers bareaus of the servers bareaus of the servers of the servers as servers as servers bareaus of the servers as servers a

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